

Joint Logistics Systems Center



S U C C E S S S T O R Y

Automated Item Manager System is Operational at Warner Robins



The Automated Item Manager Support (AIMS) Project was successfully demonstrated and implemented at the F-15 System Program Directorate (LY), Warner Robins Air Logistic Center (WR-ALC), Georgia. AIMS automates the manual and labor intensive tasks associated with the file management and asset reconciliation process that drives spares budgets, stock levels, depot workload, and weapons systems supportability while maintaining the decision making expertise represented by Item Manager Specialists (IMSSs) and the Item Manager Department. AIMS uses the Joint Computer Aided Acquisition and Logistics Support (JCALS) system to access legacy data in digital format through a single desktop application to accomplish this task. The AIMS project is one of nine demonstration projects managed at the Joint Logistics Systems Center (JLSC) by the Automated Systems Demonstration (ASD) Program Management Office, that supports business improvement opportunities and provides solutions to production and operational challenges that affect the logistics missions. The AIMS demonstration team included government personnel and contractor personnel from the Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC).

Accomplishments

The AIMS demonstration began at WR-ALC/LY in November 1994 and ended in April 1996. Using AIMS, the IMSs processed 100 percent of the National Stock Numbers (NSNs) assigned per specialist during the asset reconciliation period compared to only 25 percent of the NSNs when using the manual method. The error rate for completeness and accuracy approached zero and the internal processing time for form generation decreased from 150 minutes to about 30 minutes. The demonstration showed AIMS' potential for tremendous benefits to the item management community and to the ALC. It represents an important step toward reducing workloads and increasing efficiency as personnel numbers decrease throughout the Department of Defense (DoD). The demonstration of the asset reconciliation capabilities of AIMS improved the IMS capabilities and showed the need to continue the development of the entire package for a comprehensive file management process. WR-ALC funded the expansion of AIMS to all of the IMSs in the LY directorate and they are now using AIMS to perform their quarterly computations. Future plans call for AIMS implementation to all 120 item managers (IMs) at WR-ALC.

Background

In 1994, the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Logistics (DUSD/L) chartered ASD to demonstrate the capability of selected computer software to bring together many existing inventory management tools and automate this labor-intensive management process. Every quarter, F-15 item manager specialists (IMS) accessed multiple legacy systems such as, the D041, J041, and D104 to calculate material requirements and determine Asset Reconciliation, Adjusted Levels (AL), Readiness Spares Package (RSP), and Wholesale Inter-service Support Agreements (WISSA) requirements. IMSs spent three weeks each quarter manually performing these extensive computations and searching many hard copy reports and stand-alone legacy reports to find the required information. The task was so complex that the IMSs normally completed the process for only the most critical NSNs each quarter, deferring the remaining numbers until later. The AIMS demonstration project sought to do three things: evaluate and demonstrate the capabilities of the JCALS system Workflow Manager to contribute to business process reengineering, evaluate the JCALS capability to integrate data from multiple legacy systems, and automate the wholesale item manager business process. The successful demonstration of AIMS increased the efficiency of the asset reconciliation process. It also demonstrated the need to continue developing the follow-on modules that will fully automate the item management process.

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